



UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI Utafiti News

A Newsletter of the Research Production and Extension Division

Issue No: 001

Spearheading Research and Development

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Message from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research, Production & Extension)

The University of Nairobi strives to be a world-class university committed to scholarly excellence and hence, provide quality education and training. The university management, in line with the National Strategy for University education reform process has put emphasis on the creation of a culture of innovation through acquisition, creation, preservation,

integration, transmission and utilization/application of knowledge. Research, Production and extension services provision therefore form the core functions of the university, besides teaching.

To ensure that research and extension services are conducted with professionalism and integrity,

Continued on Pg 3

Welcome to the first issue of Utafiti Newsletter

Utafiti News is a newsletter production of the Office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Research, Production and Extension (RPE), University of Nairobi. In this first issue we introduce to you the RPE Division leadership, give an overview of the governance and structure.

In addition, you will be acquainted with the issue of intellectual property and related rights; plagiarism and how it affects you; innovation and technology, where and how you can have your ideas incubated, research uptake activities and funding opportunities.

Utafiti News aims to inform you, our readers of on-goings in research from various units of

the University of Nairobi and also profile researchers with the aim of increasing our visibility and enhancing our reputation as a research intensive institution.

Utafiti News is envisioned to be produced bi-annually. We are currently considering articles for our next edition and welcome articles in research which you would like to share with the UoN fraternity and beyond.

In our next edition, we hope to have our letters to the editor section, which is your feedback to us.

Enjoy your read!!

B. Wanjala(Mrs)

Utafiti News Editor

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Vision

Towards excellence in research, innovation and extension

Mission

To promote the discovery, application and dissemination of knowledge through quality research and innovation

Our Core Values

The RPE Division is guided by the following core values:

- Freedom of thought and expression
- Innovativeness and creativity
- Team spirit and teamwork
- Professionalism
- Quality customer service
- Transparency and accountability
- Ethical practices

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Message from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research, Production & Extension)

Continues From Pg 1

The university has put in place:

- A Research policy whose objective is to facilitate, host and conduct research that address problems constraining development initiatives in Kenya and the world at large.
- A Policy on Intellectual Property Rights whose objectives among others is to protect the rights of the university, its innovators, breeders, research sponsors and the public.
- A policy on plagiarism to sensitize staff/students on the need to maintain professionalism and academic integrity.
- Rules and Regulations for the conduct of research by students
- The quality management system procedure for research

- which spells out steps to follow when conducting research by staff, students, collaborative research/multi-disciplinary;
- The Ethics and Research Committee composed of KNH/UON membership is in place to interrogate researches contacted by staff
- An elaborate examination system for Graduate students' research projects and theses is managed by the Board of Postgraduate Studies (BPS).
- Regulations governing the Conduct of researches by staff.
- Memoranda of Understanding/Agreement for collaborative researches
- A digital repository for researches/theses publications by staff and students enhanced with a policy on Open Access.
- A University Press that publishes scholarly materials

like books, publications emanating from research.

In view of the foregoing, the university has continued to conduct research and some of the recent Intellectual Property protections include:

- Patents - 3
- Trade Marks -3
- Copyrights – 43
- Plant Breeders rights – 12

There are however over 1000 research projects undertaken by staff and students. Appreciation goes to the Governments/institutions/persons who have chosen to support mankind in this form and researchers who have continued to seek knowledge through this kind of enquiry.

*PROF. LUCY W. IRUNGU
DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLOR
RESEARCH, PRODUCTION & EXTENSION*

Introducing the Research Production and Extension Division

The University of Nairobi is a research intensive university with a reputation for excellence and a strong and vibrant research culture with outcomes that are recognized for their impact and relevance in the region. The University has therefore remained dedicated

to creating and strengthening partnerships with industry and other significant institutions and/or organizations to maximize research outcomes. In this regard, the University through its research and learning centers and institutes and their involvement with industry partners,

has contributed immensely to the socio-economic development of the nation.

The ability of the University's innovation incubation centre, the Science and Technology Park, in conjunction with the Intellectual Property Management Office to transfer research outcomes to commercial reality, is highly regarded. Implicitly, the University values its research students as important contributors to our research standing and has provided a supportive environment for students to achieve

excellence. The high standards set by the University ensure that our research-based postgraduate degrees are respected and valued throughout the world.

Against this background, the University of Nairobi Council made the decision to create the Research, Production and Extension (RPE) Division in order to advance the University's research profile. The Division, headed by Prof. Lucy Irungu, is responsible for the strategic research direction and overall research

performance of the University and in particular for maintaining and advancing the University's research profile, research training, technology transfer and commercialization of research outcomes.

The RPE Division also provides research support and services to University of Nairobi researchers and postgraduate research students through the following units: Science and Technology Park; Intellectual Property Management Office; Centre for International Programmes and

Links; Board of Postgraduate Studies; University of Nairobi Library and the University of Nairobi Press.

By Rosemary Omwandho
Office of the DVC (RPE)

Against this background, the University of Nairobi Council made the decision to create the Research, Production and Extension (RPE) Division in order to advance the University's research profile.

RPE Leadership



Prof. Lucy W. Irungu

Deputy Vice-Chancellor

Prof. Irungu is the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research, Production and Extension) at the University of Nairobi. She is responsible for advancing the University's research profile, research training, technology and innovation, and commercialisation and uptake of research outcomes.

Prof. Irungu holds a BSc in Entomology (Nairobi), an MSc in Entomology and Applied Parasitology and a PhD in Entomology, both from the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, University of Liverpool. She was the Principal of the College of Biological and Physical Sciences, University of Nairobi before her current appointment as the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research, Production and Extension). dvcrpe@uonbi.ac.ke | lirungu@uonbi.ac.ke

Prof. Julius Mwangi

Coordinator, IPMO

Prof. Julius Mwangi is the Coordinator, Intellectual Property Management Office. He is a professor of Pharmacognosy in the School of Pharmacy, College of Health Sciences. He has been a member of the Board of Kenya Industrial Property Institute and currently in the Kenya Copyright Board and has a strong interest in intellectual property issues for last 13 year.

Prof. Mwangi has 57 scientific publications in local and international journals and has presented about 50 conference and seminar papers, 18 of which have been on Intellectual property. He has also attended many conferences and training on intellectual property and patenting. Julius.mwangi@uonbi.ac.ke | Website: ipmo.uonbi.ac.ke



Prof. W.O. Ogara

Director, Centre for International Programmes and Links (CIPL)

Prof. Ogara is an Associate Professor in the Department of Public Health, Pharmacology and Toxicology. His area of specialization is in Veterinary Public Health and has special interest in meat hygiene including slaughter of domestic animals and wildlife, meat and meat products, production quality control and purveyance.

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Prof. Eunice Mutitu

Director, Board of Postgraduate Studies (BPS)

Prof. Eunice Mutitu holds a PhD and an MSc in Plant Pathology from the University of Nairobi. Prof. Mutitu specialises in plant disease diagnostics using conventional and molecular techniques, plant disease control, biological control of plant diseases, field and storage fungi and their mycotoxins, soil borne pathogens and their management. She has undertaken several research projects and is well published in refereed journals. director-bps@uonbi.ac.ke | <http://bps.uonbi.ac.ke>

Dr. Sophia Kaane

Director, Information and Library Services University of Nairobi Library

Dr. Kaane holds a PhD in Library information Studies from Loughborough University, UK and MA, Counseling Psychology, United States International University.

Some of the key achievements include;

- Winner best Academic Library 2011
- Winner Library of the Year Award (Maktaba Library 2010)
- Winner Best Academic Library 2010

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RPE Governance and Structure

The Research, Production and Extension (RPE) Division is headed by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor who steers and manages research, innovation and extension activities. The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (RPE) is supported by the Research Development and Advisory Board (RDAB) as the main governance Board. The Board's membership is drawn from across the university with consultation from industry.

RDAB plays an advisory role to the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (RPE) on the following matters:

1. Research infrastructure development and formulation of appropriate policies;
2. Research planning, coordination, administration, logistical support;
3. Potential grant sources;
4. Protection of intellectual assets, commercialization, dissemination and publication;
5. Strategic alliances with government, industry, local and international research institutes;
6. Management of research libraries and archives;
7. Research branding setting research standards and benchmarking research quality assurance/control, research risk assessment and capacity building;
8. Coordination of seminars, consultancies, workshops, conferences and symposia;
9. Management of research contracts and consultancies; and
10. Management of University research fund, extension and outreach services.

The other Boards and Committees that support the operations of the Research, Production and Extension Division are;

- Centre for International Programmes and Links Board
- Board of Postgraduate Studies
- Science and Technology Park Board
- UoN Press Board
- Intellectual Property Committee
- Research Grants Committee

Plagiarism deterrence at the University of Nairobi

By Esther Obachi, Librarian
Email: eobachi@uonbi.ac.ke

Plagiarism has become a big menace world over and the University of Nairobi needs a proactive approach to enable academic staff to check students work for plagiarism. In this article, Esther Obachi, a senior library assistant in the University of Nairobi Library system expounds on the practice in academia.

The quest for further education in Kenya has grown tremendously in the recent years as more people desire attaining an authentic degree from a local, recognized University. Apart from being the oldest University in the country, the University of Nairobi has the highest number of students in its programs and has often affirmed its commitment to maintain its excellent academic integrity and continue leading from the front.

The establishment of the office of the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research Production and Extension) in 2011 is one step towards attaining this goal. Since its inception, the division has spearheaded activities in relation to ethics of research and the use of information. One such activity was training the University of Nairobi Management Board (UMB) members on how to utilize the online open source software to detect plagiarism and how to cite references. Plagiarism has become a big menace world over and the University of Nairobi needs a proactive approach to enable academic staff to check students work for plagiarism. Indeed, several online software such as Viper, DocCop, Copy Tracker, Plagiarisma and Plagiarism Check exist. Again, there is Zotero which is citation management software for ensuring proper citation.

One of the reasons why the University is concerned about plagiarism is because the practice of using another person's intellectual work without acknowledging the author and passing on the work as your own is against

the standards of scholarship and academia. Further, copying a string of words from another person's work or the entire document without acknowledging him/her also constitutes plagiarism. Therefore proper citation is essential even when using one's own work.

Plagiarism can occur where the writer has poor skills in citation, is ignorant of the need for proper citation, or lacks integrity. Other writers like to practice deception or they enjoy the fun of being mischievous. Some students find that they have little time left to do their assignments and may copy from others without knowing that it is unethical. We have seen others who copy articles from the internet and paste these onto their submissions without citing the websites that they have surfed. It is disconcerting that some people believe that since the internet is free, then, one need not cite it. In some cultures people argue that using someone's words is a sense of respect and honor. In Asia, for example, it is an honor to use a prominent personality's words and in Russia helping a friend to write a project paper is viewed as proper. Therefore, it is necessary to sensitize people on ethical use of information to avoid plagiarism.

The Library has the mandate to sensitize students on plagiarism. As the custodians of information, librarians have a responsibility to ensure that information, as a commodity, is used ethically. It is also necessary for the librarians to know that in the process of explaining to users where and how to access information, they should not abdicate their responsibility of instructing them on the best practices of accessing and using information.

Initially, the library concentrated primarily on protecting the copyright, this is why all research projects are kept in reserved

sections. However, with the emergence of open access, it is mandatory for library users to understand the concept of information ethics, copyright and plagiarism. There is a tendency for people to confuse copyright infringement with plagiarism. The two concepts are related in a way, however, while plagiarism touches on integrity, copyright infringement touches on legal issues. Copyright infringement may lead to legal action and financial compensation while plagiarism leads to apology, retraction of the publication and withdrawal of the benefits gained from the plagiarized work.

One then can plagiarize without infringing the copyright and thus, it is necessary to know the difference. The "fair use exemption" allows a person to photocopy or use the portion of an intellectual work of another person with acknowledgement.

Detecting plagiarism early may redeem the plagiarizer from later embarrassment including retraction of a publication or failure for the student. Plagiarism checkers assist in checking that students have not plagiarized the work of others or other sources like the internet and online/electronic databases. Consequently, plagiarism checkers are necessary even though some moralists have argued that subjecting students to this mandatory process is also unethical. With others arguing that some plagiarism detection software infringes the students' copyright since every

As the custodians of information, librarians have a responsibility to ensure that information, as a commodity, is used ethically

document or assignment that is scanned is retained in the database by default. But this can be argued from the "Fair Use" exemption clause of the copyright.

In order to address all the above issues professionally, the office of the DVC RPE established a committee to formulate a Plagiarism Policy for the University of Nairobi. The comprehensive policy will cover the ethical use of information by both students and the staff of the University. This policy will be a major academic integrity tool for the entire University, helping in deterring plagiarism and taking a path of prevention rather than a punitive measure.

Remember

- Copying a string of words from another person's work or the entire document without acknowledging that source constitutes plagiarism
- Plagiarism can occur when the writer has poor skills in citation, is ignorant of the need for proper citation or lacks integrity.
- Do not wait until the deadline for submission of your assignment to start your research. Plan ahead, read and write based on your understanding.
- Give credit where is due by acknowledging your source of information

Open Access Initiatives at the University of Nairobi

By A. Kabugu, Deputy University Librarian & R. Otando Systems Librarian
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WITH THE EMERGENCE OF THE INTERNET AS A POWERFUL INSTRUMENT FOR GLOBAL EXCHANGE AND DISTRIBUTION OF HUMAN KNOWLEDGE, NEW AND EFFICIENT MODES OF KNOWLEDGE DISSEMINATION HAVE EMERGED. Prominent among these is the Open Access (OA) initiative. To this end, the University of Nairobi (UoN) has identified open access as an important avenue for disseminating its research outputs. Open access is the provision of free and unrestricted access to peer reviewed scholarly and research information.

The University has undertaken various activities aimed at promoting awareness and participation in the open access movement. These activities are geared towards capturing, preserving and disseminating the knowledge generated through the University's core activities. Part of these activities is the setting up of the University of Nairobi Digital Repository. Through the Repository, users have access to the University's

scholarly output, increase the University's general internet visibility and enhance the impact of the University's research output.

The office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Research, Production and Extension (DVC, RPE) which has been at the forefront in promoting the open access initiative in the University, advocated for an institutional policy. In December 2012, the University adopted an Open Access Policy that is expected to guide the University in all activities related to open access.

In addition, the DVC, RPE's office in collaboration with the Library department and stakeholders, has initiated workshops to sensitize University Management on Open Access and its applicability to the University. Indeed, the Library continues to actively carry out sensitization workshops for staff and students in order to enhance their awareness and also to disseminate knowledge on information resources available through

the different Open Access channels. Already, the Library is working closely with students' associations in a bid to demystify the Open Access principle.

The University has also promoted the participation of its staff in international fora focusing on issues related to open access.

Acknowledgment



Rosemary Otando, a Systems Librarian at the University of Nairobi Library, was together with Muthu Madhan, India declared winners of the Electronics Publishing Trust for Development (EPT) Open Access Awards 2013.

The award is given in recognition of efforts made by individuals working in developing and emerging countries towards advancing Open Access (OA) to scholarly publication.

In November 2012, the University Management through the Office of the DVC (RPE) supported the participation of two members of staff in the Berlin 10 Open Access Conference held at the University of Stellenbosch in South Africa. This was an important platform for scholars to advocate for the growth of OA and engage in discourse on how developing countries can become active contributors to the world's knowledge production.

In October 2012, the University signed the Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities. This is a document that outlines concrete steps to promote the internet

as a medium for disseminating global knowledge. The signing of the declaration by the University signifies its commitment and support for the open access initiative.

In recognition of its support for Open Access, the University of Nairobi has also been admitted as a Foundation member of BioMed Central, the Open Access publisher. This membership comes with benefits to the institution that will enhance its research activities.

The University will continue to play a leading role in OA activities in this region to maintain its position as a vibrant and dynamic participant in the global creation,

exchange and application of knowledge.

The major channels for achieving open access are through publishing in open access journals and depositing scholarly materials in institutional repositories. Institutions benefit from OA through enhancement of research visibility, higher usage and impact of research outputs as well as enhanced global rankings. Open access also has benefits beyond academia through the diffusion of knowledge to other social and economic sectors.

The digital repository is available at <http://erepository.uonbi.ac.ke>

UoN: Building relationships locally regionally and internationally

By M. Maina, Web Communications Officer
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THE UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI (UoN) RECOGNIZES THAT AN EDUCATION WITH AN INTERNATIONAL CHARACTER IS NECESSARY TO EQUIP STUDENTS AND STAFF WITH THE KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS FOR THEIR SURVIVAL AND GROWTH, IN A COMPETITIVE LABOUR MARKET. It is with this perspective that the University senate established Centre for International Programmes and Links (CIPL) to enhance building relationships with other institutions, organizations and industries internationally, regionally and locally.

CIPL is a unit in the University of Nairobi, charged with the responsibility of initiating, promoting, facilitating and coordinating international

programmes and links, staff and student exchanges and mobility, collaborative research projects and worldwide networking.

Currently the Institution has a total of 340 Memoranda of Understanding and 720 Memoranda of Agreements established and signed with various institutions with the latter being implemented at the college level.

As a result of fund raising for scholarship opportunities and research collaborations, in the academic year 2012/2013 the University was awarded various sponsorships including the Commonwealth Scholarship of Kshs. 2,014,909 and CIPL (IGU) of Kshs.

600,000. The University also received a Kshs. 1.3 million grant from Education International and Kshs. 456, 694 from Erasmus Mundus.

Through the collaborations, the University has been able to internationalize some of its programmes to accommodate international students and staff. In addition, exchange programmes, have seen both students and staff members get opportunities to interact with their counterparts from different parts of the world. The experience of studying in another university is one of the most invaluable benefits that a student can acquire during his or her university studies. During such



exchange programmes, the student does not only benefit from experiencing a different cultural environment but also from a different mode of lecture delivery and intellectual discourse than the one he or she may be used to in the home university. The interaction with other international students in such exchange programmes helps in widening the academic and cultural horizons of the students participating in such programmes.

‘Together with partners, the University of Nairobi strives to educate global citizens for the future and extend the frontiers of knowledge for the benefit of all humanity.’



Front row left: A UoN student attending a foreign exchange programme forum.

Understanding IP and related rights

By Prof. B. Sihanya, Scholar, Intellectual Property, Constitutionalism & Education Law-School of Law
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IP Sensitization workshop

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY (IP), IS CRUCIAL IN ACADEMICS AND KENYAN'S POLITICAL ECONOMY. THE MEANING AND SIGNIFICANCE OF IP HAS NOT ALWAYS BEEN UNDERSTOOD. IN THIS ARTICLE, PROF BEN SIHANYA EXPLAINS IP.

Intellectual Property (IP), or the property of the mind – as the name suggests, is the property of an individual. IP has a lot to do with one's ideas, innovations and creativity. In some developed countries, IP is a resource against which one can actually borrow from a bank, as it has commercial value.

It is unfortunate therefore that many researchers are losing claim over their inventions owing to the low awareness on IP and related rights. "It is very disheartening when researchers come to our offices

citing theft of their invention by another," says Prof. Julius Mwangi, Coordinator, Intellectual Property Management Office, in most cases the University is unable to assist some of the researchers since most of them do not keep records or journals, detailing their research work and they are therefore unable to produce proof of ownership.

What is intellectual property IP?

IP is human creativity embodied in tangible form. The Constitution of Kenya (2010), identifies IP as part of property. The details on the meaning and significance of IP are found in Acts of Parliament or statutes, rules, regulations and policies, including the University of Nairobi IP Policy 2013.

IP falls into two broad categories:

copyright and related rights, and industrial property. Industrial property includes patent, trade secrets, trade mark (TM, ®), utility model, unfair competition, geographical indication and mask work or layout of integrated circuits. Plant Breeder's Right (PBR) or Plant variety Protection (PVP) are sometimes problematically categorized as a third or sui generis that is, special form of IP. Animal breeder's right has however, not attracted sufficient attention in Kenya. The University of Nairobi's College of Agriculture and Veterinary Sciences (CAVS) is a leader in PBR which is regulated by the Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service under the Seeds and Plant Variety Act, Cap 326.

The subject matter of copyright falls into two broad categories: primary works and related or derivative works

Patent: meaning and significance

A patent is the certificate granted to an inventor and it is the property right to enjoy or exclude others from using an invention. A patent may be granted for a product or process or both. Some people regard a patent quite highly in the IP family and as the pinnacle of invention. This is partly because of the high standards that an invention must embody including novelty or newness, inventive step or non-obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art, and utility or usefulness.

Trade mark: meaning and significance

Trade mark is an IP right promoted in order to distinguish the goods or services of one trade mark owner from those of the competition. Trade mark more directly seeks to answer the question, "what is in a name, a sign, a mark?" Trade mark serves at least five purposes:

First, historically, a mark was to indicate the source or origin of the goods, services or technologies; second, to protect the goodwill or investment by a trade mark proprietor, trader, or corporation; third, it is to limit confusion of the consumers; fourth, to meet consumer expectations regarding standards; and fifth, to secure

market integrity the way copyright does.

Copyright: meaning and significance

Copyright is a set of exclusive rights vested in the author, creator or other owner and promotes original expressions which are embodied in a tangible, material or fixed form or medium. Copyright includes the right to reproduce or copy, distribute or adapt the work. Copyright does not protect ideas; only their expression or fixation.

The subject matter of copyright falls into two broad categories: primary works and related or derivative works. These are literary, artistic and musical work, sound recordings, broadcasts, audiovisual works and performances. The Copyright Act 2001 is the main statute governing copyright law in Kenya.

Promoting IP at UoN

The UoN Intellectual Property Policy enacted in 2013, provides for the protection of the rights of the University, its innovators, inventors, creators, breeders, research sponsors and the public. Further, to cushion innovations by University of Nairobi (UoN) students and staff, the University has taken deliberate measures in raising awareness on IP so that its creations are duly protected and commercialized for the benefit of

the innovator, the University, and society. However, in order to enjoy the provisions of protection in the policy, researchers are encouraged to disclose. , premature disclosure is actually committing academic suicide.' 'Academic suicide' occurs when a researcher discloses his/her invention

The UoN is also in the process of setting up a Technology and Innovation Support Centre (TISC), an initiative in partnership with the Kenya Industrial Property Institute (KIPI), and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). Through TISC, researchers and innovators will have access to six commercial patent databases which will give them access to information on existing inventions which have been patented or not. In addition, TISC will provide access to major scientific and technical journals such as aRDi (Access to Research for Development and Innovation) as well as free online IP courses offered at master's level.

What you need to know as you carry out research is that:

- *Ideas are intangible property and hence, cannot be commercialized.*
- *Only innovations that are novel can be patented and researchers should avoid re-inventing the wheel by duplicating the work of others.*
- *Do not commit "academic suicide" by disclosing your invention in public before filing*
- *Scientists who routinely import/export materials should ensure that they fill a Material Transfer Agreement form*
- *Keep an up-to-date 'Research Notebook'*

FAB LAB: Incubating innovative ideas

By Dr. K.Gachigi, Coordinator Science & Technology Park
Email: kamaugachigi@gmail.com



The Science and Technology Park (STP) is a rapid prototyping facility called a 'Fab or Fabulous lab', for incubating innovative ideas from students on a wide range of technical fields. The students are perceived as entrepreneurs, and encouraged to form companies that can be facilitated to incubate and develop business ideas.

Currently, the Unit has 17 companies at varying incubation stages ranging from those ready for funding, to those at pilot stage and those at the R & D stage. Some of the projects undertaken at STP – Fab lab include the Milking Rhino, an award winning documentary produced by Kartemquin Films. The documentary examines environmental conservation from the perspective of people who live with wildlife and offers a complex, intimate portrait of two community-based conservation efforts in Kenya and Namibia. It tells intimate and complex stories of the Maasai and Himba communities

trying to break out of poverty by leveraging and protecting their surrounding natural resources.

The production of the documentary gave students attached to the STP – Fab lab a chance to interact with other student teams from other countries and to articulate their understanding of the challenges faced by indigenous communities in Africa with regard to wildlife and natural resource management, conservation, and sustainability. Drawing from their academic areas the teams conceptualized effective, innovative and sustainable communication solutions to empower indigenous people and foster development including the

leveraging of local resources.

HAPPY FEET: FIGHTING JIGGERS IN 3D

Tunga Penetrans is a miniature sand flea measuring about 1 mm found in dirty environments in tropical and sub-tropical regions, which targets the flesh and blood of warm-blooded animals causing feet deformity. Students at the University of Nairobi, have developed 'Happy Feet', a project under the UoN Science and Technology Park and Fab Lab, in partnership with Ahadi Kenya, an organization dedicated to fighting jiggers. The technology uses 3D printing to create a quick,

The documentary examines environmental conservation from the perspective of people who live with wildlife and offers a complex, intimate portrait of two community-based conservation efforts in Kenya and Namibia.

photo



University advancement programme



50th UoN Graduation



RDAB Maanzoni workshop



launch of Engineering-ADD Alumni



Prof. Irungu welcomes D



CHS open day



BPS sensitization workshop

Photo gallery

15

16



Prof Mwangi with Dr Marisella Ouma during IP training



RDAB consultative meeting



Dr. Sophie Kaane



Open access day



Consultative meeting btwn IGAD, UON ETC4



VC, RPE Prof. Irungu(third from right) visits stand



IP sensitization group photo

15

16



simple and cost effective way of manufacturing shoes, designed to suit feet deformed by jiggers. The shoes serve a preventive and curative role especially when worn with medication. This technology not only helps in fighting jigger infestations, but also helps in preserving the environment as it puts plastic waste to use.

Ultimately, the shoes can be “re-recycled” again after their life cycle.

Success story

The “Pima Sema” device is customer service evaluation which provides a digital questionnaire used to measure the level of customer satisfaction. Data collected from the device is uploaded to a central server and stored for later analysis.

Simon Mwaura, one of the innovators behind technology, has since registered his own technology company called Gag Ltd. Using this company he has been able to market speed governors to a large number of customers primarily in coastal Kenya. The speed governors are branded as GTR devices, which stands for “governors, tracking and reporting”. Simon developed the technology and outsourced the fabrication and packaging

of the devices to a company in China. Despite the fact that the technology used is a combination of known technologies and therefore cannot be patented, it nevertheless represents a significant milestone in Kenya’s industrial development, whereby they are the first to introduce such technology developed and built in Kenya.

The company is currently in the process of formalizing its incubation status under the UoN Science and Technology Park Co. Ltd.



The Role of ICT in Supporting Research

By I. Otieno, Director ICT
Email: iotieno@uonbi.ac.ke

Research is one of the core functions of the University and indeed the vision, mission and core values of the University demonstrate the significance that the University attaches to research, production and extension. Research plays a fundamental role in the generation, transmission and preservation of knowledge. In the information and knowledge age, ICT is a tool to support various processes and discover innovative

ways of doing business in a dynamic environment. Knowledge management is the solution for maintaining a competitive business edge. ICT acts as an enabler of research by providing a conducive environment for conduct and management of research therefore furthering the research agenda of the University.

Collection, processing, analysis and presentation of research data and information can be managed efficiently and effectively through the use of ICT tools. ICT provides the Internet which is a critical infrastructure for global access to data and information that are key



ingredients to research. Internet provides a network through which researchers can collaborate and share ideas amongst themselves. Internet has also brought a new paradigm shift on the way that researchers access information and communicate amongst themselves through the use of email and social

media.

ICT has been used for the management of research processes in the University. Currently, we have a system (Management Information System) to manage the disbursement of grant funds to researchers in charge of various projects. Plans are underway to develop and implement a comprehensive Grants Management Information Systems that will act as a research database and computerize grants management from the pre- to post-award stages.

ICT is used for the dissemination of research outputs and through the creation of research project websites, important information is made accessible to stakeholders across the globe. Research output

is also made available through Institutional Repositories (IR) where conference papers, journal articles and publications can be deposited and made freely available on an Open Access (OA) platform thereby enhancing the visibility and impact of that research. The University ICT Centre, in collaboration with the Library, has installed and configured D-space (open source platform) to be used as the University's IR where research output can be made freely accessible to the rest of the world. The University is in the process of developing an Open access policy that will support this initiative. ICT therefore plays a critical role in improving the quality of research as guided by the principles outlined in the University Quality Policy statement.

School of Computing setting the pace through technology and innovation

The School of Computing has in the recent past made news owing to their input in providing digital solutions to decongest traffic in Nairobi City and the launch a C4DLab, Startup Incubation Programme. The School is renowned for innovative, demand driven ICT solutions.

C4DLab admits 10 start-ups for incubation

The C4DLab domicile at the School of Computing and Informatics is a Research & Development Lab that targets to incubate innovative ideas, which have development potential of startup companies. The lab gives support through provision of resources and services, which the startup may not have access to.

It is envisioned that the incubation programme takes a period of 6 months to 1 year depending on how fast the startup can grow. The incubation programme has been made competitive with the School giving a chance to innovators to pitch their ideas which are judged according to the viability, solving real life problems; innovation should have multi-disciplinary characteristics and still be relevant to computing, group composition and level of commitment.

The R&D Lab on March 6, 2014 admitted its first lot of start-ups for incubation. Selected from a total of 24 applications, the 10 incubatees will receive support through provision of resources and services

which their companies do not have

The C4DLab Call which ended on February 28, 2014 sought proposals which were multi-disciplinary in nature but had a computing element from the University and beyond.

The selected start-ups were

- Throughpass Africa: This is a soccer recruiting and betting platform. It is an integrated system in which coaches and agents can easily track the best of promising players even at an early age
- Techxus Systems: Techxus Systems have developed geaddress; an alternative addressing system for both

Cont.pg 18



- personal and enterprise users who are tired of the ineffective existing mechanisms.
 - (CHURA LTD: Chura aims to ease the difficulties users experience in accessing services across different mobile service providers. It provides an integrated, user friendly, easy to use package for mobile subscribers to enjoy and share with loved ones.
 - RockeSci: Science platform that gets kids interested in science at a very young age and helps them understand key science concepts that are in their syllabus via funky experiments and tutorials that are more suited to the east African market.
 - Creatix Systems: Offers enterprise solutions on the cloud. Main products are Integrated Human Resource Management and Customer Relationship Management Systems delivered through SaaS.
 - FarmDrive: Seeks to connect smallholder farmers to investors who want to engage in farming but don't just have the time or the land to do so.
 - Ideal Animations: This is a 3D animation studio that brings a fresh and innovative approach to the budding Kenyan film and advertising industry. The goal is to exceed the expectations of the clients, by offering outstanding international quality animation, whilst increasing confidence in local production houses
 - NESBIT-COMP: creates equipment for all the facilities where students use computers such as the libraries and classes. This equipment is to be placed at the entrance of these facilities. All computers serial numbers belonging to students and staff are to be registered with their names.
 - Telvic Parking Solutions: Provides a system that gives motorists a chance to query it in order to be answered on the location of the parking lots, the availability of the spaces and the guarantee that there are actually spaces in real time, through various avenues, such as mobile applications and SMS service
 - Mobiworld ICT Solutions – RaveApp: RaveApp applies the concept of matatu pooling to help those who go out to rave to conveniently get a matatu to their various homes without having to wait for long hours for a matatu or even worse missing one. The app targets those who prefer their usual cheap means of transport to the rather expensive tax
- On Tuesday January 28, 2014 the School of Computing through a collaborative research with Columbia University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Groupshot launched DigitalMatatus , an elaborate open source city bus system.
- The research which has mapped 120 routes used by public transport

is meant to assist stakeholders with the necessary information required in the planning and management of the transport system within the Nairobi Central Business District (NCBD). The map indicates access routes to the NCBD from various end points and exit routes. "The stylized map which also includes commuter rails will provide necessary data to the sector stakeholders that would reduce traffic congestion the city," says Prof. Peter Peter W. Waiganjo, one of the researchers in the project and a Lecturer in the School of Computing, UoN.

If the system is adopted, it is envisioned in future incorporate public transport schedules and time zones, as depicted in most developed countries which have organized transport systems.

The digital map can be accessed via: www.digitalmatatus.com



Digital Matatus: Organizing Nairobi Transport System

Innovation: Use of modern technology in green house farming

By Bett Kipng'etich and David Karibe
Technologists, Department of Physics

As more and more young people leave the rural areas in pursuit of higher education in the urban areas, agriculture has been left to the aging parents. But this need not be the case, two technologists Bett and Karibe, from the Department of Physics, College of Biological and Physical Sciences, have developed a prototype gadget that enables a farmer to attend to their farm, and to monitor and control their green house farming activities from whatever location they are.

Every year, the undergraduate students in the Physics Department embark on their final year project where they seek to solve a particular problem using the skills they have acquired during their four years stay at the University. The students work closely with the lecturers and the technical



Bett demonstrates the green house farming automation technology during the 2013 Nairobi International Trade Fair,

staff. According to Bett and Karibe, the idea, was conceived during such a holiday internship programme at the Physics Department., where a student worked together with the electronics technical team towards development of the prototype.

The prototype, which is aimed at green house farming automation is combined with remote control, so that it can mitigate the need for direct personal involvement which means getting tied down at the farm.

The automation of farming activities, for example monitoring soil moisture content and being able to automatically actuate irrigation based on that condition, will encourage more people to engage in agriculture, while still keeping their jobs or indulge in other economic activities. This in turn will enhance food sufficiency. The fact that the

system logs data from all the sensors over time, means that it is possible to monitor progress and predict future yield from the farm on repeated seasons.

Also, the interface to access the system is web-based and hosted online, this means that regardless of the user's device type whether computer, Smartphone or tablet. The platform can be accessed from anywhere in the world so long as the farmer has access to the internet.

Currently, two student interns have been assigned the task to further develop the green house technology. Their main objective is to implement a pervasive wireless sensor network using the zigbee standard. This is a quite new type of networking that is part of the "Internet of Things" technological leap. The adoption of this wireless

change will help the project become compatible with large scale farming.

Future plans for the project will involve setting up automated greenhouses at designated locations. These s will act as pilot projects with the objective of t encouraging adoption of the system. Bett and Karibe intend to add automated hydro-culture as a possible application, to provide technological solutions to local problems. Agriculture is just one such area where a lot of of innovation are required for the improvement of improve yields at minimal costs. One important lesson in the project is that there is need to improve the local technology available and to advance the skills of development and agricultural extension workers who are working together with local stakeholders in industry.

UoN Social Work Students' Academic trip to Rwanda



UoN Social Work students pose with Ambassador John Mwangemi (Standing centre in suit and red tie) during a courtesy call to the Kenya Embassy in Rwanda

By Dr. G. Wairire
Senior Lecturer, Department of Sociology & Social Work
Email: wairire@uonbi.ac.ke

It was a week full of fun, learning and lots of events for approximately 42 social work students from the Department of Sociology and Social Work who recently got the privilege to take an academic trip to Rwanda, take part in the march to mark the World Social Work Day in Kampala – Uganda, attend the International Social Work Conference and attend a Workshop on Academic Writing at Makerere University – Uganda.

The UoN students held an interactive session with staff and students from the University of Rwanda where their learning included a detailed exposure of how humanity can get eroded through

negative ethnic based propaganda which if not contained, can wipe off a whole nation. Discussions were also held on the role of Gacece courts, as avenues for justice and reconciliation. The outcome of which was a challenge to the social workers to strive to create a conducive environment through which such avenues such as the Gacece courts can be nurtured for more durable reconciliatory effects as people have solutions for their own problems.

A major realization for the social work students during the tour was

that the academia in the society can also cause untold suffering to humanity by propagating wrong doctrines and ethnic hatred in their lecture rooms, which is what, happened in the years immediately preceding the genocide in Rwanda. The failure also by the international community and the neighboring countries to respond immediately was an eye opener that a nation must strive to address its own issues very firmly and without necessarily waiting for external interventions which may be too little too late after much damage has been done

and maladjustments in the society occurred.

Most importantly, the UoN students learnt that professional social work in Rwanda was a direct outcome of the 1994 genocide. Prior to that, there was no training for social work in the country and the response to assist both the traumatized victims and perpetrators of the genocide yielded the foundations for professional social work education and practice in Rwanda.



UoN students march to mark the World Social Work Day with other delegates



Conference delegates in the social work march in Kampala

The students also got an opportunity to tour the Huye, Murambi and Kigali Memorial Sites of Genocide, which gave them a vivid exposure of the horrors of negative ethnicity permeated through wrong propaganda and the resultant effects on the society. The tour also provided them with a good opportunity to bond and establish a base for comradeship as upcoming social work professionals in East Africa region

The World Social Work Day

In addition to the Rwandan trip, the students got an opportunity attend the International Social Work Conference held in Kampala, Uganda from 16th - 18th March 2014. The conference themed 'Professional Social Work in East Africa: Towards Social development and Poverty Reduction' was organized within the auspices of PROSOWO Project

and was attended by about 400 delegates from 33 different countries.

A key highlight during the conference was the marking of the World Social Work Day celebrations held on March 16, 2014 in Kampala, Uganda. Conference delegates comprising of social work educators, social work students, policy makers and social work practitioners

from different countries marched through the streets of Kampala led by the Uganda Police band. The World Social Work Day is marked and celebrated by the fraternity of social work educators and practitioners



Mr. Ishmael Ochola 4th year social work student presenting his paper



Workshop on Academic Writing at Makerere University

globally on 18th March every year but the conference organizers opted to mark the day alongside the social work march in order to make the power and voice of social work more visible in Uganda.

The UoN social work students and five academic members of staff from the Department of Sociology and Social Work accompanied by the Dean, Faculty of Arts, Prof. Chitere represented the University of Nairobi at the conference. A fourth year student from the department, Mr. Ishmael Ochola presented a paper 'The future generation: Students' perspectives on social work and

social development" in one of the plenary sessions. His paper represented the voice of social work students from the East African region.

Workshop on Academic Writing at Makerere University

The PROSOWO team had organized this workshop in response to the noticeable need for social work educators identified during the PROSOWO empirical research conducted in the first year of the project by the five partner institutions in their respective countries. Many social

work academics were found to be limited in writing for internationally recognized and peer reviewed journals. The workshop, held at Makerere University was facilitated by Prof. Rodreck Mupedsizwa – editor in chief of the peer reviewed, ProQuest listed Journal of Social development in Africa and Prof. Lynne Healy who has published widely on international social work and who has served in different editorial boards for different journals.

About PROSOWO

PROSOWO, an acronym for the Promotion of Professional Social Work towards social development and poverty reduction in East Africa is a project which aims to reduce poverty in East Africa. The project is funded by the Austrian Partnership Programme in Higher Education and Research for Development (APPEAR), involves five partner universities in five countries namely Carinthia University of Applied Sciences (Austria), University of Nairobi (Kenya), Makerere University (Uganda), National University of Rwanda (Rwanda) and Institute of Social Work (Tanzania). The overall objective of the project is to promote professional social work education and practice to more effectively contribute towards social development and poverty reduction in East Africa.



Dr. Wairire (squatting with arms outstretched) takes a photo moment with social work students

UoN subscribes to Research Professional Africa Funding Platform

By R. Omwandho
Assistant Registrar, Office of the DVC (RPE)
Email: rosemary.omwandho@uonbi.ac.ke

The University of Nairobi (UoN) has entered into an agreement with Research Professional Africa in a facilitation process that will enable students and staff members to access funding opportunities from Research Africa's database.

Research Professional Africa is an essential online resource for researchers, students, research and innovation managers, development officers and policymakers in Africa. It provides subscribers access to comprehensive, authoritative and appropriately highlighted information of over 40,000 research funding opportunities globally to enable sustained research for African development.

In addition, African newsroom staffers, cover the African science, policy and research funding news relevant to readers. The Research Professional Africa platform provides access to funding opportunities, news and analyses on topics chosen

to give African researchers, students and policymaker's edge in the competition for research funding. Types of funding opportunities include scholarships, fellowships (early career, mid-career and senior), research grants, innovation grants, networking/collaboration opportunities, travel grants, hosting conference grants, publication grants, capacity building grants, research collaboration calls and development funding from local and global funders of research and development projects in Africa.

The Research Professional Africa platform allows students, staff and researchers to search for various grant opportunities specific to their chosen discipline and research projects. Also included in the platform is online news bulletin which covers

- institutional profiles where Research Professional Africa looks at the funds paid out by a particular funder to Africans,

reporting on where the money has ended up

- grant analysis which will look at the outcomes of key funding rounds in Africa,
- my first grant capturing interviews with African academics telling the story of how they started out; and
- Q&As with senior funding managers regarding best practice and changes in funding priorities.

Research Africa also highlights selected funding opportunities and innovative funding schemes in the news, as well as research related jobs and conferences/events that are relevant to African and global readers.

The platform can be accessed through <https://www.researchprofessional.com>

Types of funding opportunities include scholarships, fellowships (early career, mid-career and senior), research grants, innovation grants, networking/collaboration opportunities, travel grants, hosting conference grants, publication grants, capacity building grants,



Alumni Scholarship & Research Fund (Asrf)

One of the ways in which alumni can remain relevant to the University is by contributing to its core mandate which is research and scholarship. The University of Nairobi Alumni Association will soon be launching the Alumni Scholarship & Research Fund (ASRF) to provide scholarships to students and research grants to staff including support in presentation of papers in international conferences. This will be a great milestone for Alumni Association in giving back to the alma mater.

The Scholarship and Research Fund will be open to applicants from all disciplines with successful applicants being selected on the basis of academic excellence and achievements in their chosen fields as well as their contribution to the life of the University Community. The scholarship will cover tuition fees and other support items

The successful applicants will be expected to act as ambassadors for the University and Alumni Association in fundraising for future scholarships.

The Alumni Association invites

all disciplined based Chapters to come together and help fundraise for the Fund through their Faculties and Schools, Institutes, College alumni and friends. The Colleges, Faculties, Schools and Institutes will have representatives in the Fund to determine who gets the scholarship or research grants.

The successful applicants will be expected to act as ambassadors for the University and Alumni Association in fundraising for future scholarships.

In focus: Dr. John P.O. Obiero Dean's Committee Research Grant Award Fellow 2011- 2012

In this edition of RPE News, John Paul Odhiambo Obiero reports on the outputs for his Ph.D research work funded by the deans Committee Research grant.

Obiero, a researcher specializing in soil and water engineering and

a lecturer in the department of Environmental and Biosystems Engineering (EBE), was awarded funding to carry out his Ph.D. project research entitled "*Peodotransfer Functions for Saturated Hydraulic Conductivity for*

Surface Runoff Modeling".

Three years into the research work, the followings results have been realized:

- Three papers published in refereed journals based on the research work Open Journal

of Modern Hydrology, Vol 3, published online July, 2013.

- Journal of Water Resource and Protection, Vol 3. No 9.
- Nile Water Science and Engineering Journal, Vol 3 (issue2).
- Poster presentation at the Applied Geoinformatics for Society and Environment (AGSE) conference (15th – 19th August, 2011, JKUAT) on part of the research work was done and appeared in Abstract in conference proceedings
- A book chapter recently published in 2013.
- Evaluation of Measurement Techniques and modelling of Saturated Hydraulic Conductivity (Chapter 8). Intech Publishers, Croatia .
- Presentation at the World Pedometrics Conference held August 26th-30th 2013 at the World Agroforestry Centre, ICRAF campus, Gigiri, Nairobi.

A key component of the grant was training. Obiero used skills acquired to participate as a resource person and consultant in the training of Nile Basin Decision support members. Trainings

took place at the Institute of Meteorological Training and Research (IMTR-Met Department, Nairobi) – December2009-January 2010 and water resource managers were trained in surface water hydrology and watershed modeling for policy decision support in the management of soil and water resources for sustainable development of catchments.

Obiero also participated annually as a resource person in an international Postgraduate Certificate Course in Applied Integrated Water Resources Management jointly conducted by ITC (University of Twente) Netherlands, The United Nations, Egerton University, Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development (RCMD), Kenya, training the international participants on modeling applications for watershed resources management using the SWAT model.

At the level of postgraduate training, Obiero utilized the

knowledge and skills acquired during the PhD work in training master of science students in the department (EBE) who undertake projects in hydrological modeling.

Obiero has developed a training manual for data preparation, set up, test running and calibration of the SWAT model for use in training of postgraduate student in watershed management. This is a hands-on participatory training manual.

The most fundamental part of Obiero's work is the application of research to Modeling the impact of climate change and variability on water resources; predicting the effect of land use/ land cover change on water flow in rivers.



(Second right) Dr. Obiero briefing the DMC (RPE) Prof. L. Irungu (fourth from right) during the Ploughing Competition held at the Upper Kabete, Vet Farm.

Funding opportunities

(1) Call for applications: Dean's Committee Research Grant 2014 – 2015

The Call for Dean's Committee Research Grant - 2014- 2015 is now open!

The purpose of the grant is to support research and capacity building in priority areas in-relation

to the National Development targets and the University of Nairobi Strategic Plan.

The grant funds projects to a maximum of Ksh.250,000/= per year for a maximum period of three (3) years.

Eligibility

i. Applicants must be full time faculty at the University of Nairobi or;

ii. Employees of the University of Nairobi on staff development undertaking their postgraduate studies at the University.

iii. Full time postgraduate students registered at the University of Nairobi in their year of research. Application for the grant must however be lodged by the supervisor.

Application deadline: July 31, 2014.

For more information, visit <http://dvcprpe.uonbi.ac.ke/node/2175>

For enquiries, contact:

Office of the DVC (RPE)
Tel: +254-20-318262 ext. 28207 or 28711
Email: registrar-rpe@uonbi.ac.ke

(2) HORIZON 2020 Research and Innovation Programme

Horizon 2020 is the new EU funding programme for research and innovation running from 2014 to 2020 with a €80 billion budget.

H2020 supports SMEs with a new

instrument that runs throughout various funded research and innovation fields, so it should be easy for SMEs to find opportunities in many calls.

H2020 also aims to enhance EU international research cooperation so there are more opportunities for Third Country participation.

Having built H2020 around the main societal challenges like an ageing population, food security, energy efficiency, the EU attaches high importance to integrate social sciences and humanities into the work programme.

Another important priority of the Commission is to ensure gender is embedded in the design of Horizon



2020 project proposals.

To view current Horizon 2020 funding opportunities, visit <http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/index.html>



L'OREAL-UNESCO Fellowships for Women in Science

Application Deadline: August 21, 2014

Applications are invited from women scientists who are nationals or permanent residents of any country in Sub-Saharan Africa for the 2014 L'OREAL-UNESCO Regional fellowships.

The program is giving 5 fellowships of 5,000 Euros to 5 African Ph.D. students and another 5 fellowships of 10,000 Euros each to 5 African postdoctoral researchers.

Age limit for applicants is 40

years for Ph.D. students and 45 years for postdoctoral researchers.

Eligibility

Applicants must

- Have a Ph.D. degree in life or physical sciences or pursuing studies leading to a Ph.D. degree (applicants must have registered and commenced their Ph.D. study)
- Be nationals of any Sub-Saharan African country
- Be working in a research

laboratory or institution in one of the region's countries or are enrolled in an African Doctoral University

- Be not more than 40 years for Ph.D. students and 45 years for postdoctoral researchers by the end of the application period

Applications can be made online: http://www.fwis.fr/en/user_session/new

More funding opportunities can be accessed from the Research Professional Africa website: <https://www.researchprofessional.com>

The Notice Board



DRUSSA2013 PLATFORM

PLATFORM2013 is a DRUSSA publication focused on getting evidence-based development research into use in Sub-Saharan Africa. The publication which was launched on 17 October 2013 during the Association of Commonwealth Universities Centenary Conference in London carries interesting articles by researchers from the DRUSSA member universities.

The University of Nairobi's article is on 'The impact of water sector reforms and interventions in urban Kenya' [PLATFORM 2013 page 50 &

51] by Dr. Samuel Owuor (Dept of Geography and Environmental Studies) and Dr.

Dick Foeken (Africa Study Centre).

The crisis in water and sanitation is mainly a crisis for the poor. Dr. Owuor's project hopes to assess the impact of the water sector reforms and interventions on the quality of livelihoods among the urban poor in Kenya with an intention to positively influence policy and practice in the water sector.

For more on the UoN's Water Sector Reforms Project and other highlighted projects from the DRUSSA member universities,

read the full PLATFORM 2013 digital publication at <http://dvrpe.uonbi.ac.ke> You can also be part of interesting conversations on research uptake by visiting drussa.net

ACU CONTRACTS TCC TO DEVELOP SCIENCE COMMUNICATION MODULE

The Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU) recently contracted the Training Centre in Communication (TCC) to develop a Science Communication. TCC is a non-for-profit organization

established in 2006 and works in partnership with the University of Nairobi to teach effective communication skills to scientists in Africa.

The science communication module Beyond the University: Communicating and presenting research to non-academic audiences will be an online skills training course aimed at enhancing institutional programme support to early African researchers.

The project funded by Robert Bosch Stiftung, under the Early Careers: Structured Training for African Researchers (STARS), works with African universities to develop and refine professional development for academic staff in their early careers.

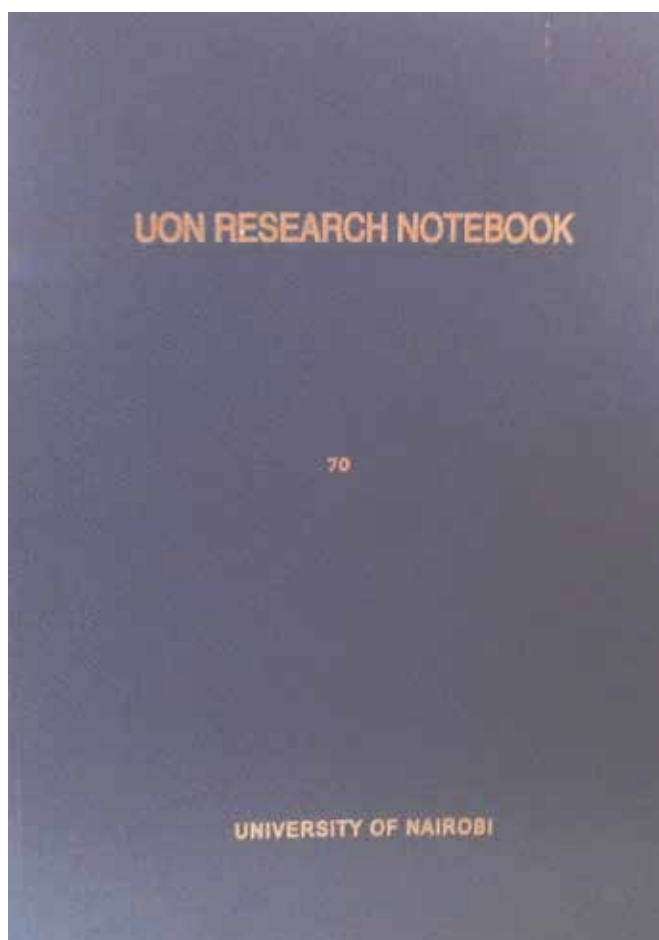
To learn more on this, visit www.tcc-africa.org E-mail: pr@tcc-africa.org, info@tcc-africa.org

Material Transfer Agreement Form (MTA)

Do you need to transfer research materials from the University of Nairobi to other individuals and/or institutes locally or internationally? Then you need to fill the Material Transfer Agreement Form (MTA). The form can be downloaded from <http://www.uonbi.ac.ke/downloads>

From the link provided, researchers can also download the Innovation Disclosure form, which is completed when one comes up with a new and useful creation. For more information or enquiries, contact

Mr. Spenser Muthoka
Intellectual Property
Management Office
Email: ipmo@uonbi.ac.ke
Tel: +254 - (0)721 572 340



Your Research Notebook should help you document and prove

- Conception date – the date you knew your invention would solve a problem
- Date of reduction to practice – the moment that you made a working embodiment of your invention
- Diligence in reducing your invention to practice – where diligence refers to your intent and conscious effort to make a working embodiment. Ensure your research notebook includes dates and facts that show what activities you have conducted to reduce the invention to practice and when such activities were conducted

Remember your research notebook is a legal document

UON **Utafiti News**

A Newsletter of the RPE Division



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